

WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE P.O. BOX 870 SALISBURY, MARYLAND 21803-0870 410-548-4801 FAX: 410-548-4803

Bob Culver County Executive R. Wayne Strausburg Director of Administration

August 27, 2019

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr. State House H-107 100 State Street Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Folk Festival Alcohol License

Dear Senator Miller:

I am writing with a concern regarding the attached alcohol licenses that have been granted by Comptroller of Maryland Peter Franchot. These licenses are in violation of Article 2B. The event that the licenses are approved for is neither a Non-Profit Wine Festival nor a Non-Profit Beer Festival. Furthermore, the licenses that have been issued primary purpose is to promote Maryland Wine and Beer. The approved licenses are for the Folk Festival which has no relevance to a Wine Festival or a Beer Festival. By the attached information, the Comptroller was very much aware what kind of event this festival is.

Something that is very concerning to me is that the local Board of License Commissioners was totally circumvented both this year and last. They were not consulted at all. The License Commissioners are sworn to uphold Article 2B after being appointed by the Governor. We depend on them to protect our citizens from violations of the law and provide our residents with a safe environment.

It is very troubling that the Comptroller of Maryland would approve these licenses that are illegal. I think it is important that you and others in elected positions are aware of this unlawful action of the Comptroller.

Respectfully,

WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

Bob Culver County Executive